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# Music and the Drama

A DEPARTMENT OF MUSICAL  
AND DRAMATIC NEWS OF IM-  
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## NEW YORK DRAMATIC REVIEW

By J. STRICKLAND

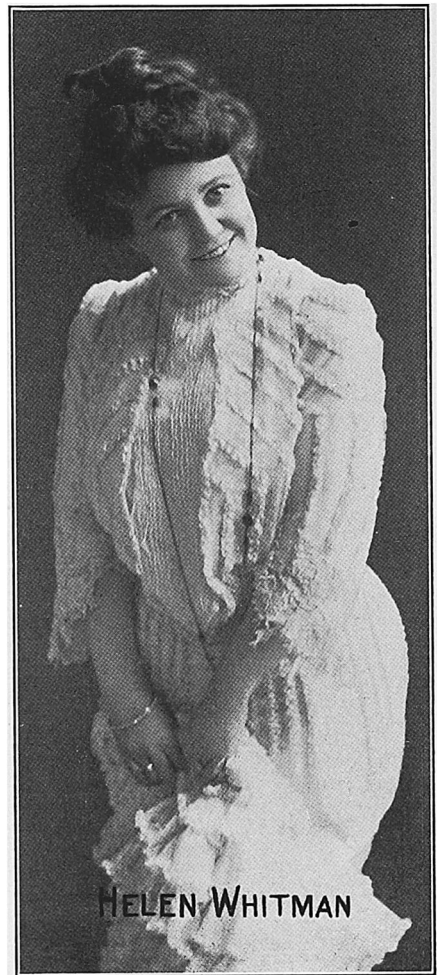
Mr. Will. J. Block is giving New York a fine production of "The Land of Nod" at the New York theater. The extravaganza is already very popular, and evidently booked for a summer run. The company, costumes, scenery and general embellishments of the fantasy are of the best, and a glimpse at the programme reveals a personnel hard to beat. With such artists as Mabel Barrison, Helen Bertram, Carrie De Mar, Joseph Howard, Gus Weinburg, Knox Wilson, William Sellery, William Burrell, Neil McNeil, etc., comment is unnecessary. It is sufficient to remark that each and every one of these excellent performers work hard and effectively, making a decided success of one of the best productions seen here for a long while.

"The Mills of the Gods" is another Block production which gained such favor with New York playgoers, that at the end of its allotted time at the Astor Theater, it continued its run at the Manhattan. "The Mills of the Gods" is a strong and virile drama which appeals intensely to the hearts of all. Commencing with the vivid trial scene, the progression of the play is full of interest and its several climaxes bring down the house. The cast includes Robert Drouet, Edgar Selwyn, Harrison Armstrong, Frank Sheridan, William Humphrey, Joseph Twohy, Evelyn Vaughan, Louise Closser, Alice Martin and Doris Mitchell.

"The Rose of the Rancho" is duplicating the success achieved by "The Girl of the Golden West," at the Belasco. David Belasco has made this production perfect in every detail. Each scene and character breathes the true Californian atmosphere of 1846. The opening scene in particular, showing the Mission Garden at San Juan Bautista is given with beautiful effects and transports the beholder from 42d street to California in true imaginative style. In Miss Frances Starr, Mr. Belasco has truly made the discovery of a star. Her impersonation of Juanita is a study without a flaw, and she makes one of the most winsome little Senoritas our eyes ever beheld. Fine support is rendered by Charles Richman, Frank Losee, Hamilton Revelle, John W. Cope, etc.

Ben-Hur has had a good season at the Academy of Music. This well known production loses none of its interest in the passing of time, and each year its advent is always looked

forward to with eager appreciation. Mr. A. H. Van Buren plays the title-role with rare distinction, and the chariot race still holds the audience breathless.



HELEN WHITMAN  
In "The Virginian"—New York

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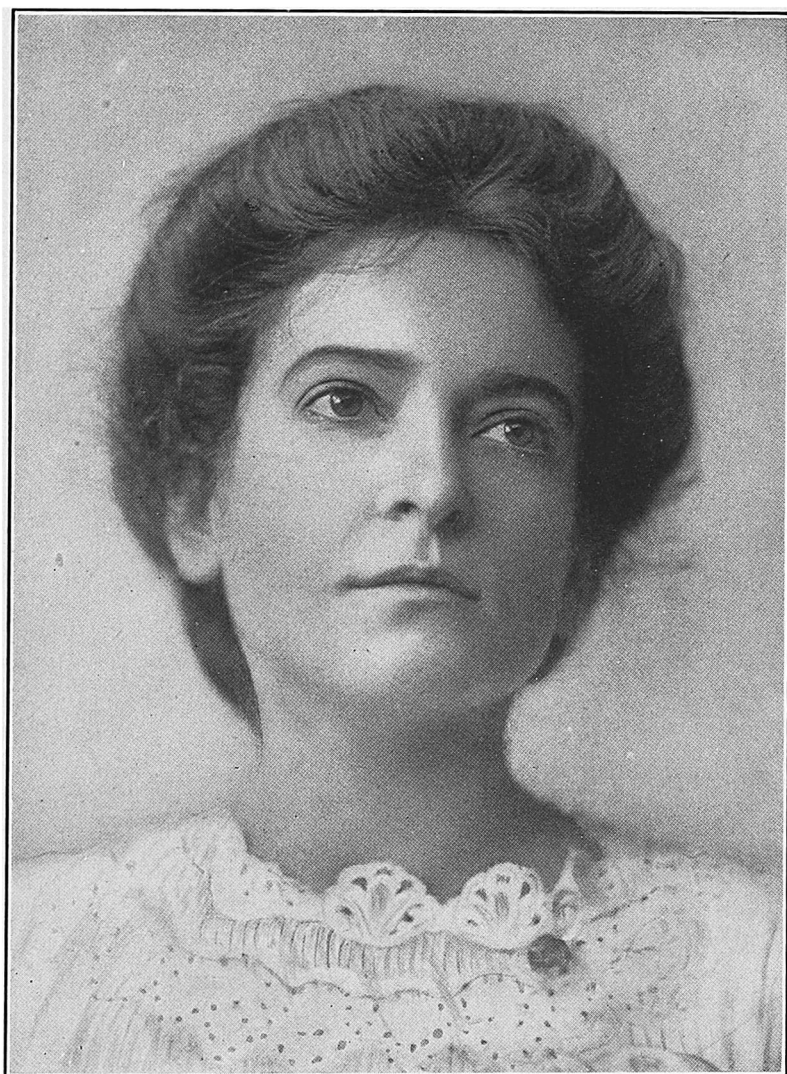
DOROTHY REVELL  
In "Clothes," with Grace George—New York

"The Grand Mogul" is the latest Klaw & Erlanger musical comedy presented to New Yorkers. With Frank Moulan at its head, this production has also evidently settled down for a summer run, and will undoubtedly fill the New Amsterdam Theater for some months to come. Maud Lillian Berri is the prima-donna and sings with her old charm and ease. Edith St. Clair makes a vivacious Lola, and the cast also includes Elsa Ryan, W. H. Macart, John Dunsmure, George Moore, Sager Midgley, etc.

"A Marriage of Reason" with Kyrle Bellew

and Fanny Ward in the leading parts, is a play not without its merits. The production, however, at its opening, did not have the good fortune to please the captious critics of the New York dailies, but for all that, is pursuing the even tenor of its way, and in spite of adverse criticism may continue its tour. Mr. Bellew plays in his usual polished and gentlemanly way, and as the scene of the play and most of the characters therein are essentially English, the comedy fits the man, and runs in a highly smooth and finished groove. Miss

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**MAY BUCKLEY**  
In "The Magic Melody"—New York

Ward gives an excellent characterization of Rita Forrest from Chicago, and exhibits some fine products of the Parisian dressmaker and milliner. Miss Julia Dean is good in an emotional role, and Miss Margaret Fuller, Frederick De Belleville, Conway Tearle, and last but not least, Master Richard Storey, fill out a well balanced cast. The production is handsomely mounted, and every way worthier of a longer stay in the Metropolis.

There are several new productions scheduled for opening at time of writing, and include Eddie Foy in "The Orchid," at the Herald Square Theater, Arnold Daly in "The Boys of Company B," which replaces "The Lion and the Mouse" after its long run at the

Lyceum and Mme. Alla Nazimora in "Comptesse Coquette" at the Bijou. Ethel Barrymore is appearing in her old success, "His Excellency the Governor" at the Empire. William Collier is still doing well at the Criterion in "Caught in the Rain." "Brewster's Millions" is one of the big successes of the season and deservedly so at the Hudson, and the rest of the present New York bills are meeting with their share of patronage.

The ninth and final performance of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts and Empire Theater Dramatic School this season took place at the Empire Theater on March 22d. The programme consisted of "A Scarlet Lily," "The Spark," and "The Vikings of Helgeland."